

# HAYWARD HIGHLIGHTS

News and notes from the City of Hayward about important events, useful information and progress we're making in getting work done to improve dayto-day life in the City.

#### 238 Corridor Improvements Underway and Improving Two Major Streets



Subscribe! It's Free! Visit the Newsletter's webpage on the City's website to sign up to receive it via email or download it directly.

• ACCESS HAYWARD •

**How Can We Help?** 

Use www.accesshavward.com

to find the information you

service request or ask a

go directly to the staff

need from the City, make a

question. Your submittal will

member who can best help.

The Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project is working to improve traffic flow along Mission and Foothill Boulevards while helping beautify the City's major arterials. The project, started in August with completion by spring 2013, is progressing according to schedule. Work is underway along Mission Blvd south of Jackson and Foothill Blvd to Apple Street.

On-going work along Mission Blvd includes water and storm drain improvements, new median construc-



tion, updating traffic signals and street-lights, and relocation of utility facilities. Work on median curbs, storm drain inlets, sidewalks, and curbs has also been completed.

Utility facilities are being relocated by PG&E, AT&T, Comcast, and East Bay Municipal Utility District crews, while City-hired contractors are constructing water and storm drain systems, curbs, sidewalks, and electrical work for new traffic signals and streetlights.

E Street has been closed as part of the on-going effort in the Five Flags area. While the construction

causes some traffic problems, we are working to minimize these impacts and complete work as quickly as possible. Also, any lane closures and planned construction are listed on the project's webpage.



For more information and updates on the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project, visit the Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project page on the City's website or contact us at the number listed below.

Kevin Briggs, Project Manager kevin.briggs@hayward-ca.gov, 583-3900

#### In This Issue News from the City & the Work it is Doing

#### Subscribe! Subscribe!

This is a **new** PDF publication that we publish quarterly.
Please subscribe at **hayward-ca.gov/** 

haywardhighlights

### Junior Giants Summer Baseball for Kids.

Program supported by HPD, HARD, and HUSD provides youth with character building and fun. **Page 4** 

#### **Give Us Feedback!**

We'd like to know what you think about and how you found this newsletter. Talk to us: haywardhighlights@

hayard-ca.gov

Celebrate & Recreate across Hayward. Lots of free movies, concerts and events offered this summer on the Plaza, the Library and more! Page 8

This newsletter has links! We've tried to link to as many resources as possible.

Just click on the dark green, bold text to visit a page in your browser.

#### **Visit or Contact Us!**

Call 583-4000 or on the Web at www.hayward-ca.gov.

City Hall, at 777 B Street, is open Mon-Fri 8-5 with some City departments, like the Revenue Division and Development Services, having modified hours.

Hayward Library Branch hours are Mon-Wed 11-8, Thurs-Sat 10-5 and closed Sun.

#### The Struggle to Survive Balanced Budget Despite Significant Obstacles

Despite the Governor and the State Legislature stealing money from local governments and eroding local control, the City has been able to close a \$20 million gap to adopt a balanced budget for fiscal year 2012 with minimal layoffs, and none from sworn public safety personnel. How we did that remains a source of both pride and frustration for me.

The largest contributing factor to closing the gap was our employees, who have participated in addressing our budget crisis in two very distinct ways: through concessions on their own contractually-due compensation and an amazing increase in energy and output despite reduced resources. How we did this and that we did it without strife is a source of pride for me, in both our employees and our community.

Our firefighters, Council, executives, and unrepresented employees led the way, recognizing early the seriousness and the validity of the financial situation. Our firefighters took the initiative to educate their membership and to bring forth a plan for compensation reduction over the next two years that exceeded the stated reduction target. Our police officers followed with an on-target plan that played a significant

role in our financial survival. The balance of our employees contributed far less, but did meet targets they set for themselves. With the exception of three bargaining groups, everyone agreed to some real, structural change that will spawn savings now and into the future. That we did not get all employees to recognize the seriousness of the situation and to acknowledge their responsibilities as stewards of our community's resources at the same level is a slight source of frustration.

We will continue working together in the next few years to restructure and realign employee compensation, shifting a greater share of the defined benefits costs to us—the employees—and away from the tax-payer. In so doing, we will work within our 'Hayward family' and with our community. We will keep what is good and right about the public system—a defined-benefit core, a secure retirement, and adequate and affordable healthcare—while assuring that these elements are financially sustainable for the organization, the employees, and the taxpayers.

Fran David, City Manager fran.david@hayward-ca.gov, 583-4302

#### Hayward Assisting Hayward City Grants Support Hayward Assets

The City of Hayward is known as 'The Heart of the Bay' not only for its central location, but also for its caring and accepting environment. For years, the City has worked with residents, community leaders, and non-profit partners to support disadvantaged Hayward residents through grant-making and direct assistance to those most in need.

With the support of a commission of service-minded residents, last year the City provided \$2 million in grants from federal and local sources to non-profit agencies working throughout Hayward. Agencies receiving grants included food banks, health clinics, homeless shelters, and early childhood development programs, among others that provided critical support to Hayward residents most in need.

In addition to these grants, City of Hayward staff also directly helps through programs such as the Minor Home Repair Grant program. Dozens of these grants are made each year to Hayward homeowners who are age 62 or older, have severe disabilities, or have low household incomes to help with the costs of improving accessibility, correcting code violations, and removing threats to health and safety in their homes.

Other city-run programs include the Paratransit program, a door-to-door transportation service for people who are unable to use other forms of public transportation. To learn more about the work being done to help Hayward residents through these programs, visit the **Library's webpage**.

Helping to make Hayward a great place to live, work, learn and play for all Hayward residents is a big job and it requires a team effort! You can help by volunteering. Just a few hours per month can make a big difference and can have a tremendous impact on the community we all share. If you are able to lend a hand, consider volunteering. Visit the City's website and click the Volunteering link to learn how you can help in 'The Heart of the Bay'.

Sean Reinhart, Library & Community Services Director sean.reinhart@hayward-ca.gov, 881-7956



#### **City Council Meetings**

The Council meets the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays at 7pm on the second floor of City Hall. To receive Council agendas via e-mail, contact the City Clerk at 583-4400 or cityclerk@hayward-ca.gov.

2 HAYWARD HIGHLIGHTS Summer 2011

#### Keeping the City Clean Assault on Graffiti Continues



The Alameda County floodcontrol channel near Foothill Blvd and Hazel Ave has long been a target

for graffiti. Recently the City's Maintenance Services



staff completed painting over 31,000 square feet of graffiti along the graffiticovered flood control channel. Using 125 gallons of paint donated, recycled, or illegally dumped on City streets to abate the graffiti, the City saved valuable resources

while cleaning up the channel. Some of the paint was provided by the Keep Hayward Clean and Green Task Force, who had received paint from a local painting contractor, saving the City even more!

Maintenance Services, 881-7745

#### 2-1-1 INFORMATION

Dial 2-1-1 for Housing, Health, and Human Services Information. A free, nonemergency, confidential service, 2-1-1 provides easy access to housing information, and critical health and human services. It operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with multi-lingual capabilities. 211alamedacounty.org

#### Junior Giants Baseball Program Building Character by Playing Ball



For the 13th year, the Hayward Police Department, in conjunction with the San Francisco Giants, the Hayward Area Recreation District, and, for the first year, Hayward Uni-

fied School District have sponsored the Junior Giants Ball Program in Hayward. The program is geared for children in our community who would not ordinarily have access to a structured baseball program.

For the participants, ages 5 through 15 years, the program fosters character development over winning, the attitude that the effort is as important as crossing home plate, and that all kids can play every position regardless of their ability. Respect for the game and the promotion of self-esteem are more important than

keeping score in this free program.

The San Francisco Giants supply the uniforms and equipment, while the Hayward Police Department provides adult supervision in the form of police officers who coach players and train junior coaches. The Hayward Area Recreation District supports program efforts with the use and maintenance of baseball fields in local parks.

This year Hayward Police has also partnered with Hayward Unified's Let's Do Lunch Hayward program, to offer a free breakfast and lunch to all participants. Over 300 kids have signed up, with the season running through August 11.

Lt. Sheryl Boykins, Southern District Commander sheryl.boykins@hayward-ca.gov, 293-7296

#### Are You Ready for It?



The Hayward
Fire Department
has lots of

3

useful and life-saving information about disaster preparedness on its website. Get your family informed, organized and prepared before disaster strikes!

#### Important Hayward Contacts People & Services to Help You Get Things Done

General City Info, 583-4000

#### Access Hayward, www.accesshayward.com

Look up a topic, make a request, or report a problem

#### Animal Services, 293-7200

Adoptions; Dog Licensing; Lost & Found Animals; Dead, Stray or Wild Animals

#### **Building Division**, 583-4140

Building Inspections, Permits, and City Codes; Residential Rental Inspection Program

#### City Clerk, 583-4400

Passports, Notary Public, Certificate of Residence, Requests for Records and Documents

#### **Community Preservation**, 583-4143

Problems on private property, such as trash, graffiti, weeds, or inoperable vehicles

#### Fire Prevention, 583-4900

Fire Permits, Inspections, Plan Review; Hazardous Materials; Fire Education

#### Public Library, 293-8685

Adults, Teens, and Kid programs; Community Outreach; Homework Help; Literacy Tutoring

#### Maintenance Services, 881-7745

Public right-of-way problems with graffiti, illegal dumping, street signs, or street trees

#### Planning Division, 583-4200

Planning Permits, Zoning Information, Planning Resources and Information

**Police**, General Information 293-7272 Emergency 9-1-1, Non-Emergency 293-7000

#### **Public Works**, 583-4700

Engineering and Transportation, Solid Waste and Recycling, Water and Sewer, Executive Airport

#### Revenue Office, 583-4600

Water Bills, Business License Taxes, Parking Tickets, Administrative Citations, Emergency Facilities Tax

#### Join Us at Keep Hayward Clean and Green's Monthly Clean-Up Events!

July 23 Industrial Parkway area
August 27 Eden Gardens area
September 24 Tyrrell Avenue area
October 22 Downtown & North
Hayward areas

November 19 Schafer Park area Visit the KHGC Task Force section of the City's website under Clean-Up Events for more details.

Water Conservation!

It starts with you! Learn more

about saving money, reducing

your impact and high-efficiency appliance rebates at the City's

Water Conservation webpage.

#### Volunteers Are the Difference Annual Clean-Up Day Really Picks Up



The City's tl

Maintenance Services and Public h

Works departb
ments sponsored tl

an annual citywide Clean-Up Day event on May 21.

The event was attended by over 200 volunteers who picked up trash in the City's neighborhoods. A total of 74 cubic yards of trash and 12 cubic yards of recyclables were picked up during the day's event. The City provided volunteers with vests, gloves, trash bags, and grabbers. At the end of the clean-up, participants were rewarded with a free BBQ lunch and a

thank you gift. The Kiwanis Club helped out, too, by barbequing all of the hamburgers and hotdogs.



If you missed

out on this volunteer opportunity, just come to one of the upcoming monthly Keep Hayward Clean and Green Task Force clean-up events. A **schedule** is **available** on the Task Force's Clean-Up webpage.

#### Bi-Weekly Street Sweeping Clean Streets Mean a Clean Hayward

The City sweeps residential and commercial streets bi-weekly, with the goal of keeping our City clean and our neighborhoods looking good. Street sweeping provides two primary benefits to the City. The more obvious benefit is the collection and re-



moval of leaves and other debris that collect in the gutters. This debris can block storm water facilities,

causing localized flooding during heavy rains.

An equally important, but less visible benefit is the removal of metal particles and other hazardous waste products left by passing vehicles. Although they are virtually invisible, these particles can be extremely harmful to fish and other wildlife if they reach our

creeks, rivers, beaches and bays. Street sweeping is an effective method of removing both the large and microscopic pollutants that collect on City streets and to control and improve water quality.

Moving vehicles off a street scheduled for sweeping allows City crews to thoroughly clean the street from curb-to-curb. One parked car equals nearly three car lengths of space that can't be swept because the street sweeping equipment must leave room to avoid it. If vehicles are not moved on posted streets to make way for sweeping crews, they will be ticketed. Maintenance Services has a handy look-up map tool on the City's website to find out what days your neighborhood receives street sweeping.

Maintenance Services, 881-7745

#### **Housing Rehab Help!**

The City offers assistance in rehabilitating your Hayward home with Minor Home Repair Grants or Housing Rehabilitation Loans for eligible senior, disabled or low-income homeowners. Contact the Housing Rehabilitation Program at 583-4225.

#### Another Gateway Improvement Mission and Blanche Gets Spruced Up

Maintenance Services staff recently completed a gateway renovation project at the corner of Mission

Boulevard and Blanche Street. Staff refreshed this local gateway by installing a new irrigation system, sod, flowers, shrubs, and planting a new tree in the area. Existing trees were trimmed and decorative rocks and wood chips were added. In addition staff painted the Hayward sign, and

replaced an old, worn out bench with a new one designed by a local artist.



#### Outdoor Summer Safety Food, Fireworks, and Fun Tips to Keep Safe

Summer is here and with the warm weather comes the annual threats of BBQ mishaps, wildland fires, firework danger, and heat related Injuries. Whether at home or on vacation, everyone must be diligent in keeping friends, family and communities safe during the summer months.

**BBQ Safety.** Did you know that Americans prepare about 3 billion meals on grills each year? While nothing beats a home-cooked meal, each year outdoor grilling accidents are responsible for 19,000 emergency room visits and 7,900 home fires. We've listed some basic tips to help keep BBQing safe.

- Never use a grill in a garage, breezeway, carport, porch, under an awning or any other surface that can catch fire.
- Be cautious of overhead obstructions including tree branches while grilling.
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy when grilling and know how to properly use it.
- Never use gasoline or kerosene to light a charcoal fire. Both can cause an explosion.
- Keep your BBQ a safe distance from the house or other buildings.
- Never leave the grill unattended, especially when young children or pets are nearby.
- Never attempt to restart a fire by adding additional lighting fluid to an already-lit grill, as this can cause a flare-up.
- Keep kids, pets and bare hands away from the grill.
- Use insulated, flame-retardant mitts, barbeque tongs and utensils when grilling.
- Coals get hot, up to 1,000 degrees fahrenheit! Wait until coals have completely cooled before disposing them.

Wildland Fires. Firefighters control 97% of all wildland fires that start, but 3% overwhelm even the best-equipped, best-staffed agencies. That is when advanced preparation of homeowners really counts. Working to clear fuels around homes can save them if fires do get out of control. Firewise.org has tips on how to create a defensible space around your home.

**Fireworks.** All fireworks are illegal in the City of Hayward and most other Bay Area cities. Safe and sane fireworks are legal in a couple of surrounding cities, including Union City and Dublin. Although those fireworks are purchased legally in those jurisdictions, they are still illegal in Hayward. Traditionally, illegal fireworks are a big problem in Hayward, and are responsible for starting fires every year.

Heat Injury. An often overlooked but serious condition that comes with the summer heat is the threat of heat related illness or injury. Drinking lots of water, using sunscreen, and staying in the shade are common sense approaches, especially for the most at risk in the community, such as infants and young children, those aged 65 or older, and those with medical conditions. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has lots of information on how to prevent heat-related illness during the upcoming summer months.

Thor Poulsen, Public Education Officer thor.poulsen@hayward-ca.gov, 583-4948

#### **Water Quality Report**

The annual water quality report is **now available** on the Public Works section of the City's website. It details the results of water quality monitoring and that it met or exceeded all state and federal guidelines. Once again, the tap is the **best source of quality** water!

## Unused or expired medications?



If you have old medications, don't flush them

down the drain. They'll end up in the Bay and do harm! Instead, dispose of them at Ted's Drug Store at 27453 Hesperian Blvd or the Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 2091 West Winton. For more info, visit www.earth911.com.

#### Fighting Blight Citywide Code Enforcement Improving Quality of Life



Community
Preservation staff
continues its efforts of blight reduction and code
correction by enforcing various City

ordinances and working with Hayward residents to improve the appearance and standards of the community. Violations include but are not limited to; weeds, overgrown vegetation, trash and debris, illegal signage, dilapidated or unsecure properties, inoper-

able vehicles, and parking on lawns. In FY 2011, Community Preservation addressed



over 4,200 cases, and abated, by City hired contractor, 190 properties, like the one picture above.

Community Preservation, 583-4143

#### Airport Open House

Join the Bay Area Black Pilots Association, Tuskegee Airman Inc and the East Bay Aviators on the Control Tower Lawn for a day of aviation fun! It's on Saturday, July 30 from 11am to 3pm. For more info call 510-259-1062.

## HAYWARD HIGHLIGHTS

## High-Efficiency Toilet Rebates are Available!



Rebates up to \$100 are available for replacing a 3.5gpf toilet with a

qualified high efficiency model. Visit **Public Works Water Conservation page** for full details. It could save you money on your water bill, too!

# The Hayward Public Library Has a BAZILLION Events, Classes & Readings! Check out the Hayward Library's offerings for

Library's offerings for everyone—kids, youths and adult—at the **Library's website** or call 881-7945. There is **something for everyone!** 

**FYI: Carbon Monoxide** 

**Detectors are the Law** 

In July, California

carbon monoxide

installed in single-

requires that

detectors be

family homes with fossil-fuel burning heaters, appliances,

fireplaces, or an attached

Details at osfm.fire.ca.gov

garage. Multi-family dwellings have until 2013.

#### Our Afghanistan Sister City Ghazni Delegation Visits

In June, the second part of a State Departmentfunded exchange program took place when a delegation of 11 Afghans from Ghanzi, 100 miles southwest of Kabul, visited the United States and spent some time with their sister city counterparts in Hayward. During their 11 day visit, the group visited Washington DC, and met with Hayward City officials and Hayward-



**Ghazni Sister City** Committee members. The aim of the visit was to gain US government experience and apply it in the reconstruction process for Ghazni.

The Hayward-Ghazni Sister City relationship of friendship and goodwill began in 2006. Between 2003 and 2007, Hayward Sister City board members made several trips to Ghazni where they built relationships with provincial government officials, educators,

and medical professionals. The Hayward-Ghazni Sister City Committee's goal is to increase cultural understanding between Ghazni and San Francisco Bay Area residents and to support residents of Ghazni by providing aid.



Interestingly, in 2013, Ghazni will serve as the Asian capital of Islamic civilization. Ghazni was chosen as host capital by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at a conference in 2007, as part of an ongoing program to recognize Islamic cultural centers.

Ghanzi-Hayward Sister City Committee

#### Hayward Celebrates Another Tree City USA Award It's Our 25th Award



In May, City staff from the Landscape Maintenance Division held the City's annual Arbor Day event at Burbank

Elementary School. Arbor Day is a nationally-



celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. The City actively protects and preserves trees in our community, while promoting a green environ-

ment.

Event attendees helped to celebrate the City's twenty-fifth award as a "Tree City USA." To qualify as a



Tree City USA, a city must meet four standards established by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters. Mayor Sweeny presided over this annual event, which was attended by students from Burbank Elementary school and City staff.

Landscape Maintenance, 583-8906

6 HAYWARD HIGHLIGHTS Summer 2011

#### Our Largest Mural Yet Come Out and See It



The City of Hayward has partnered with the Union Pacific Railroad and the

Grand Terrace Home Owners Association in the creation of the City's largest mural. A 10,552 sq ft mural to be exact. If you're traveling southbound on BART through Hayward, you can enjoy all 50 panels of this magnificent work, which also flows onto Jackson Street, near the Meek underpass.

Local artist Jean Bidwell, along with dozens of local volunteers and residents of Hayward, have spent the last nine months, rain or shine, and lots of coffee, creating a captivating variety of Hayward highlights. The mural displays majestic trails to enchanting ponds, captivating sunsets to dancing paint brushes,



along with local areas of interest. A blog about the wall, **thewall-hayward.blogspot.com**, has day-by-day imagery and anecdotes about the process and painting. Stacey Sorensen, Neighborhood Partnership Manager stacey.sorensen@hayward-ca.gov, 583-4233

## The City of Hayward is Open for Business!

haywardopenforbusiness.org
is the City's economic
development website to help
you find out about how to do
business in Hayward. With
business climate
information, commercial
space availability, community
development, and many
other resources, it's the first
place to consider when doing
business in the City.



#### Downtown Farmer's Market Fresh, Local Food Every Weekend

Come out and enjoy the **Hayward Farmer's Market**, Saturdays at Hayward City Hall. With over forty farmers and specialty food purveyors, the market is the place to get your fill of fresh, locally-grown fruits, vegetables, and other hand-crafted foods.

The diversity of the market reflects the diversity of the local eaters here in Hayward. With so many loyal farmers and customers the market has developed its own sense of community.

In addition to the food and farmers, the market hosts the Friends of the Hayward Public Library who sell used books every other weekend to raise funds to support the library. To date the response from the public has been extremely positive.

Redevelopment, 583-4260

#### Monthly Neighborhood Clean-Up at Glassbrook Elementary. Join Us!

We'll cover local streets and provide you with all the tools and supplies. You'll help make a difference and make the neighborhood look great! Meet at the school on the following Saturdays:
July 9, August 6, September 10, & October 8 from 9 to 11am. Contact Greg Galati at gregalati@aol.com for info.

#### Weekend Litter Program Helping to Clean Our Neighborhoods

Over the past year, weekend litter crews, under supervision of City staff, have removed over 2,000 cubic yards of trash and debris from City streets and public right of ways. These crews typically work every weekend and by appointment during the week to pick up trash and debris illegally dumped all over the City.

Part of these crews are people performing commu-

nity service. The Courts refer individuals to the City, to perform community service hours in lieu of mandated fines for certain offenses. If you know someone who has community service to perform, they can contact Maintenance Services to schedule community service hours once they have been referred by the court. *Maintenance Services*, 881-7745

#### **Passports at City Hall**



Apply or renew for a US Passport at the **City Clerk's Office** in City Hall.

A complete list of passport requirements, forms, and info is at www.travel.state.gov. We can help with your questions too, just email us at cityclerk@hayward-ca.gov.

**Access Hayward**, The City of Hayward's info, reporting and comment service, is always available:

#### WWW.ACCESSHAYWARD.COM

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

CELEBRATE & RECREATE IN HAYWARD

Every Saturday Farmers Market

City Hall Plaza from 9am to 1pm

July 21

**Street Party: Wild West Days** 

B Street Downtown from 5:30 to 8:30pm

July 22

Keep Hayward Clean & Green Monthly Clean-Up

Industrial Parkway Area from 8:30am to 12pm

July 27

**Teen Photography Class** 

Hayward Main Library from 1 to 3pm

July 29

Free Concert on the Plaza: JNeen
Free Movie on the Plaza: Despicable Me

City Hall Plaza at 5:30 and 8:15pm

August 13

4th Annual Reading Rodeo Festival

Hayward Main Library from 11am to 3pm

August 18

Street Party: California Dreamin'

B Street Downtown from 5:30 to 8:30pm

August 19

Hayward Music Festival Featuring the Caravan of All Stars, Lava, Jack 'da hat' Luna, and Lenny

Williams: All Free!

Free Movie on the Plaza: Toy Story 3

City Hall Plaza at:4pm and 8:15pm

August 19

Free Concert on the Plaza: Jack 'da hat' Luna

City Hall Plaza at:5:30pm

August 27

**Keep Hayward Clean & Green Monthly Clean-Up** 

Eden Gardens Area from 8:30am to 12pm

September 17

Street Party: Art, Wine, Beer & Ale Festival

B Street Downtown from 5:30 to 8:30pm

September 30

Free Movie on the Plaza: Tangled

City Hall Plaza at 8:15pm

More info & meetings at WWW.HAYWARD-CA.GOV

#### Keeping Hayward Green Trees Build Our Urban Forest



Join the effort to keep Hayward green by participating in the City's tree giveaway. Over the coming months, the City will be providing and planting trees in right-of-ways in front of homes.

Trees moderate climate, improve air quality, and conserve water.

They provide privacy and are things of beauty. Trees are not just a key to the natural ecosystem; they are an essential part of community life.

Apply for a free tree by completing an application, and making a commitment to water and care for the tree so that it grows up healthy! Applications are available from Landscape Maintenance, just call the number below for more details.

Landscape Maintenance, 583-8906

#### **Downtown Area Improvement** Cleaning Downtown

In a coordinated effort, Community Preservation and Maintenance Services recently complete a corridor improvement project in Downtown. The goal of the project was to help reduce blight and improve the area for residents, shoppers, and businesses. Downtown property and business owners received informational letters about the project and then received a site visit from City inspectors to let them know about the City's blight reduction efforts and City ordinances.

If problems were found, owners were asked to remove unpermitted signs, paint store frontages with peeling paint, repair cracked masonry or stucco, remove graffiti, clear weeds or overgrown vegetation, remove trash and replace damaged windows. After conducting follow-up property inspections, only a quarter of the properties contacted were still in violation of ordinances. These properties were sent notices, where most of the parties voluntarily corrected their violations. Of those properties who did not address violations, some were assessed fees, while others required a City contractor to abate and correct the violations. City staff contributed to the clean-up by planting new street trees, manicuring City landscaping, replacing damaged City signs, removing graffiti, sprucing up park benches and tables, repairing sidewalks, and cleaning municipal parking lots.

Community Preservation, 583-4143; Maintenance Services, 881-7745

#### Subscribe to Hayward Highlights It's Easy and Free

Hayward Highlights, is the City's quarterly newsletter that lets you know about important doings, useful information, and progress we're making in getting work done to improve day-to-day life in the City. We'll cover a variety of topics that we think you'll find informative, useful, and present opportunities to get involved directly. Whether through Clean-Up Days, Community Emergency Response Team training, or the Neighborhood Partnership Program, there are plenty of ways you can work with your neighbors to help make Hayward cleaner, safer, and better.

If you'd like to receive it in the future, just visit the **Newsletter's webpage** on the City's website to sign up to receive it via email or download it directly. Additionally, you can give us feedback on anything you read by contacting the author of a piece or write us at **HaywardHighlights@hayward-ca.gov**. Finally, **Access Hayward** is a great place to ask questions, request information, or report problems. Let us know how we can help.

8 HAYWARD HIGHLIGHTS Summer 2011